

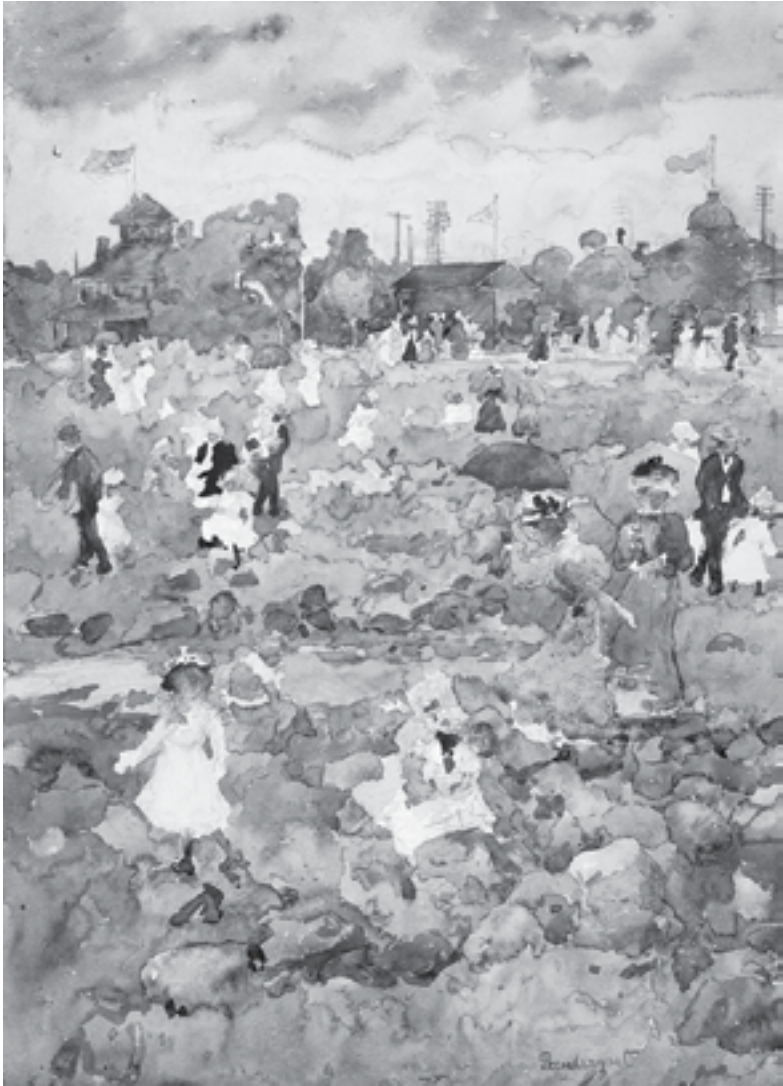
Arts & Entertainment

Watercolors on Display for the First Time in 20 Years at the Currier Museum of Art

MANCHESTER – This spring the Currier Museum of Art brings from its vault a magnificent collection of watercolor paintings as it presents From Homer to Hopper: American Watercolor Masterworks from the Currier Museum of Art from March 6 through June 7. The exhibition is a highlight of a year-long celebration of the museum's 80th anniversary that focuses on the strength and diversity of the Currier's collection.

From Homer to Hopper is drawn from the impressive collection of watercolors that the museum has built over its 80-year history. These extraordinary works – by such nationally known masters as Winslow Homer, Maurice Prendergast, Childe Hassam, Rockwell Kent, Edward Hopper, Charles Burchfield, John Marin, Stuart Davis, and Andrew Wyeth – have not been exhibited as a group in almost twenty years. The exhibition also includes watercolors by Georgia O'Keeffe, Arthur Dove, and William Zorach, among others, borrowed from regional private collections.

More than seventy-five works trace the dynamic history of the watercolor medium over the last 175 years. Some of the earliest painters in the exhibition are itinerant folk artists like Joseph H. Davis, who painted lively, decorative portraits of families in domestic settings along the Maine-New Hampshire border in the mid 1830s. By the 1880s as watercolor gained recognition among critics and the public, Winslow Homer exploited the expressive potential of the medium taking it to new heights. He merged technical virtuosity with compelling narratives to produce profoundly moving and striking images such as Fishwives (1883) and The North Woods (1894). As a young man, Andrew Wyeth was inspired by Homer. Wyeth's four watercolors in the exhibition trace his development from the brightly colored, broadly executed early work of the late 1930s to the muted tones of his arresting mature compositions. Another great twentieth-century realist in the show, Edward Hopper composed haunting views of New England architecture in a straightforward style.



The Stony Pasture, Maurice Brazil Prendergast, c 1896-97



The North Woods (Playing Him), Winslow Homer, 1894

In contrast, Impressionists Childe Hassam and Maurice Prendergast found the portability of watercolor and its brilliant colors conducive to painting landscapes and scenes of daily life along the New England coast. Modernists of the twentieth century - like Zorach, Demuth, Dove and Marin - used the translucency of watercolor to explore forms abstracted from the landscape.

Watercolors by noted New Hampshire artists are featured in the exhibition, including Barry Faulkner, a Dublin Colony artist, who became a nationally known muralist in the mid 20th century; John Hatch, a former professor of art at UNH who was elected a NH Living Treasure in 1997; Varujan Boghosian, retired professor of art at Dartmouth College, Paul Sample, a Dartmouth College graduate and professor, and Robert Eshoo, a past director of the Currier Art Center. Contemporary artists include William T. Wiley, Malcolm Morley, Sol LeWitt, and Carroll Dunham.

Programs that accompany From Homer to Hopper include an ARTalk on Sunday, March 28, on watercolor techniques and materials by Judith Walsh, professor in paper conservation at Buffalo State College and former paper conservator at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC; an artist demonstration of watercolor techniques by watercolor artist and Art Center instructor Ann Domingue on Sunday, April 25; a demonstration of watercolor techniques and materials with New Hampshire Art Institute instructor and watercolorist Claudia Michaels on Wednesday, April 28; and "Painting the Currier Neighborhood," an outdoor watercolor course on Saturday, May 15, that showcases local architecture and scenery along with a neighborhood tour by the Manchester Historic Association.

Andy's Summer Playhouse 2010 Auditions

WILTON – Andy's Summer Playhouse, a non-profit children's theater that has been providing youth ages 8-18 the chance to work with professional artists to create energetic and innovate productions, has just announced their season lineup for this coming summer. Andy's will be holding auditions March 7th at the Boys and Girls Club's Amato Theater in Milford, and March 13th at Club Cannon in Peterborough.

This is the 40th anniversary season at Andy's, and as part of that celebration they are remounting a production from each of the past three decades including: an adaptation of the famous noir comic strip Dick Tracy, an unexpected and hilarious reinvention of Swiss Family Robin-

son, and a musical production of the 1951 sci-fi classic The Day the Earth Stood Still. Their summer season will also include an introduction-to-theater conservatory program geared for those kids who are new to the stage, a playwriting workshop series for youth, and countless opportunities to learn about the technical aspects of theater such as set building, lighting, sound, costumes.

Auditions at Andy's will be held March 7th between 9:30am and 3:30pm at the Boys and Girls Club's in Milford, and March 13th between 12:00pm and 6:00pm at Club Cannon in downtown Peterborough. One-hour-slots are available, just email info@andyssummerplayhouse.org or call 603-654-2613!

KSC Concert Band Performs "With A Song In Their Hearts!"

KEENE – The Keene State College Music Department presents the KSC Concert Band's first spring performance, entitled "With a Song in Their Hearts: The Dramatic Power of Melody," on Thursday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Theatre of the Redfern Arts Center on Brickyard Pond.

Conducted by KSC music faculty member Dr. James Chesebrough, the band will perform Irish and British folk melodies, Broadway tunes, sacred tunes, and DJ favorites. Songs are common to all civilizations throughout the world, conveying moods and messages in a magical way the spoken word cannot, to audiences young and old, of every race, in every nation.

The band will perform Joe's Last Mix by Tanner Menard, a piece composed on an old laptop at a time when the world was turning their attention to the new era of electron-

ica and algorithmically generated music just prior to the year 2000. Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic Pie Jesu and Ralph Vaughan William's English Folk Song Suite will also be performed.

Featured performers are KSC faculty members Dr. Sandra Howard, soprano, and Dr. Heather Gilligan, piano, and KSC students Mark Perry '10, saxophone and music education major; Kimberly Harte '10, mezzo-soprano and vocal performance major; and Melissa White '10, soprano and music education major.

KSC Concert Band is comprised of music majors, non-majors, and community members. This performance is the first of the semester; the second concert is on Thursday, April 22. Admission is \$10 for the general public and \$5 for KSC students, senior citizens, and youth ages 17 and under. For tickets, call the box office: 358-2168.

Innovative Printmaking Exhibit at Sharon Arts

PETERBOROUGH - Sharon Arts Center announces Recent Editions, an exhibit of innovative prints by 30 New York artists working in a variety of genres plus insights into the printmaking process at the Center's Downtown Galleries, 30 Grove Street, Peterborough. The show will run from March 5 – May 3rd, with an Opening Reception on Friday, March 5th from 5-7 pm.

While some of the artists on display in this exhibit had previous experience with printmaking, for most it was their first opportunity to collaborate with a printer. Painters, sculptors and photographers were brought together by New York City's Forth Estate and Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop to team up with a master printmaker to translate their artistic processes and ideas into editioned works that expand and enhance their body of work.

Also on display as part of the exhibit are printmaking process ma-

terials including printing plates, blocks and progressions, providing a unique behind-the-scenes look at how prints are produced.

Exhibiting artists include: Glen Baldrige, Ian Cooper, Björn Copeland, Elizabeth Deasy, Alex Dodge, Elise Ferguson, Joseph Hart, Butt Johnson, Andrew Kuo, Eddie Martinez, Milton Rosa-Ortiz, Phil Sanders, Suzanne Song, Ruby Sky Stiler, Ryan Wallace, Will Yackulic, Kevin Zucker, Todd Anderson, Chakaia Booker, Enrique Chagoya, Mike Houston/Cannonball Press, Steve Johnson, Michael Krueger, José Antonio Suárez Londoño, Beauvais Lyons, Martin Mazorra, Cannonball Press, Robert Mueller, Chunwoo Nam, Jenny Schmid, Tom Spleth, and Chris Uphues. For information regarding Recent Editions, call 924-2787 or 924-7676. Website: www.sharonarts.org.

Concert Series Presents Baroque Program

Early music ensemble, Exsultemus perform FIRST MUSIC Concert Series, Barocco Italiano at The First Church, 1 Concord Street, Nashua on March 7 at 3PM. Performers include Shannon Canavin, soprano, Martin Near, countertenor, Tatiana Daubek and Jesse Irons, baroque violin, Joy Grimes, viola, Audrey Cienniwa, baroque cello and Balint Karosi, harpsicord. Tickets available at the door or by reservation calling 882-4861.

\$12 for Adults; \$10 for Seniors and Students; \$5 for all youth/children under 16.

FIRST MUSIC enters the second half of its second season with a moving concert program of Baroque vocal music, including Pergolesi's monumental masterwork Stabat Mater, featuring soprano Shannon Canavin and countertenor Martin Near accompanied by a quintet of leading Baroque musicians performing on period instruments.

Artistic Director Joseph R. Olefirowicz, a renowned conductor in the international scene, guides FIRST MUSIC in its programming and concept, and in cooperation with The First Church of Nashua, produced a well-received and well-attended opening season in 2008-2009.

For further information, contact: www.firstchurchnashua.org

Next Issue of
The Amherst Citizen:
Issue Date: March 4 (Election Issue)
Deadline: February 25

Please submit Letters to the Editor and editorial news by the above deadline. Note: we will not print any attack or issue-oriented letters that invite a response by opposing points of view.

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